VGEN.P-055

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Shipman

Serial No.

TBA

Filed

Herewith

Title

Method and Kit for Characterization of Antibiotic-Resistance

Mutations in Mycobacterium Tuberculosis

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the US national phase of PCT/CA99/01177 which is filed herewith, please make the following amendments to the claims, as amended before the IPEA/EP:

In the claims:

In claim 3, line 1, delete "claim 3" and insert - - claim 2 - -.

In claim 4, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 3" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

In claim 5, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 4" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

In claim 6, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 5" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

In claim 7, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 6" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

In claim 8, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 7" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

In claim 9, line 1, delete any of claims 1 to 8" and insert - - claim 1 - -.

I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments named herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail # £1.55613145645 in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 2/26/200/

Date